

Health and Safety Challenges in East Africa. Road Traffic Safety for the Public Good

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Magnitude of the problem

Global perspective

- The number of deaths on the world's roads remains unacceptably high, with an estimated 1.35 million people dying each year.
- Low-income countries have 1% of the world's registered vehicles but 13% of all road traffic deaths;
- High income countries have 40% of the world's registered vehicles but 7% of all road traffic deaths.

Magnitude of the problem

- Road traffic injuries are now the leading cause of death for children between 5-14 years and young adults between 15-29 years of age.
- More than half of all road traffic deaths are among vulnerable road users: Pedestrians, cyclists, and motorcyclists.
- The rates of road traffic deaths per 100,000 population are highest in Africa and South- East Asia.

Magnitude of the problem ct'd

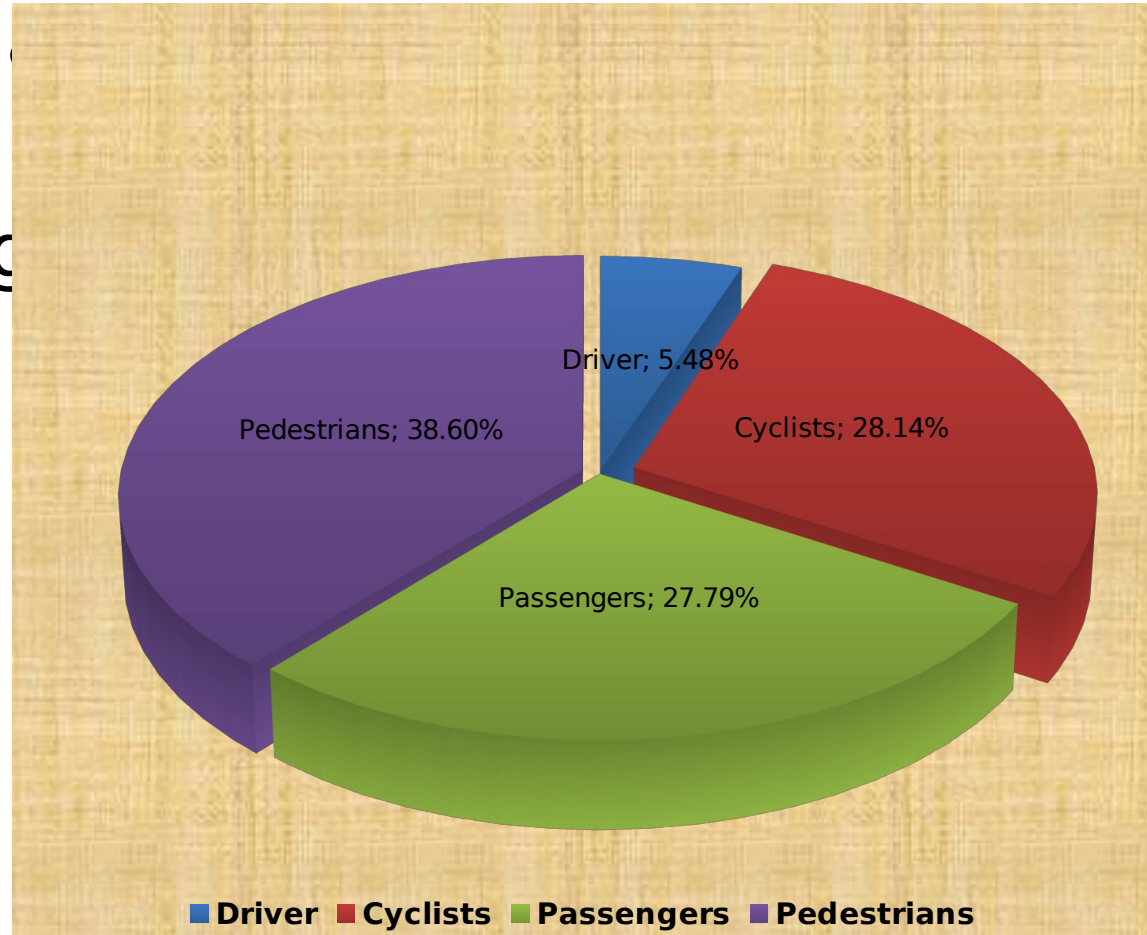
Comparison of Road Traffic Fatalities among East African Countries

S/ NO.	Country	Reported Fatalities 2016	WHO estimated Road traffic fatalities per 100,000 population
1	Uganda	3,503	29
2	Kenya	2,965	27.8
3	Rwanda	593	29.7
4	Tanzania	3,256	29.2
5	Burundi	112	34.7

Source: Global Status report on Road Safety 2018

Problem ct'd....

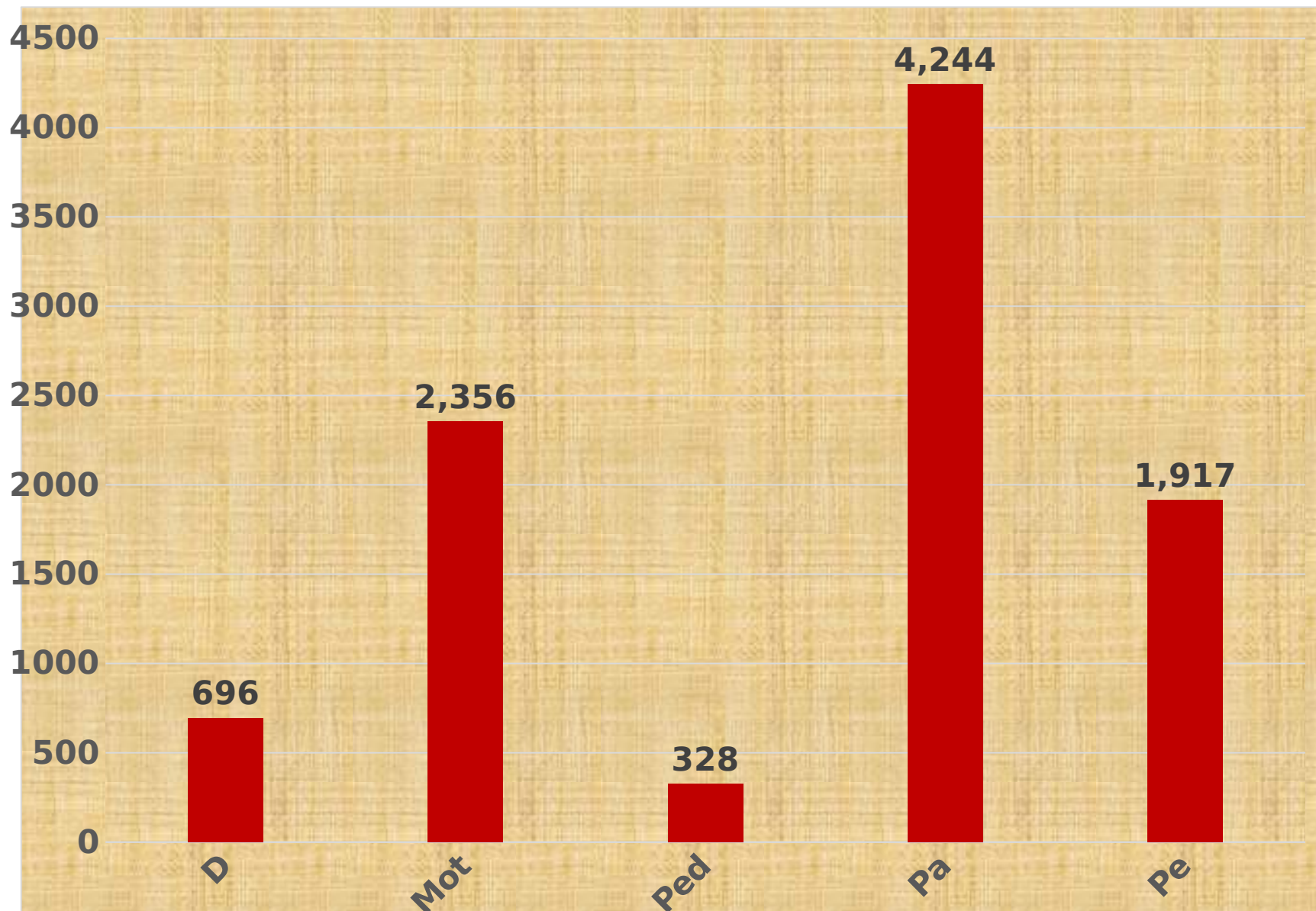
- Over 3000 people die in road crashes every year in Uganda.
- 39% are pedestrians
- 28% are cyclist
- 28 % are passengers
- 5 % are drivers



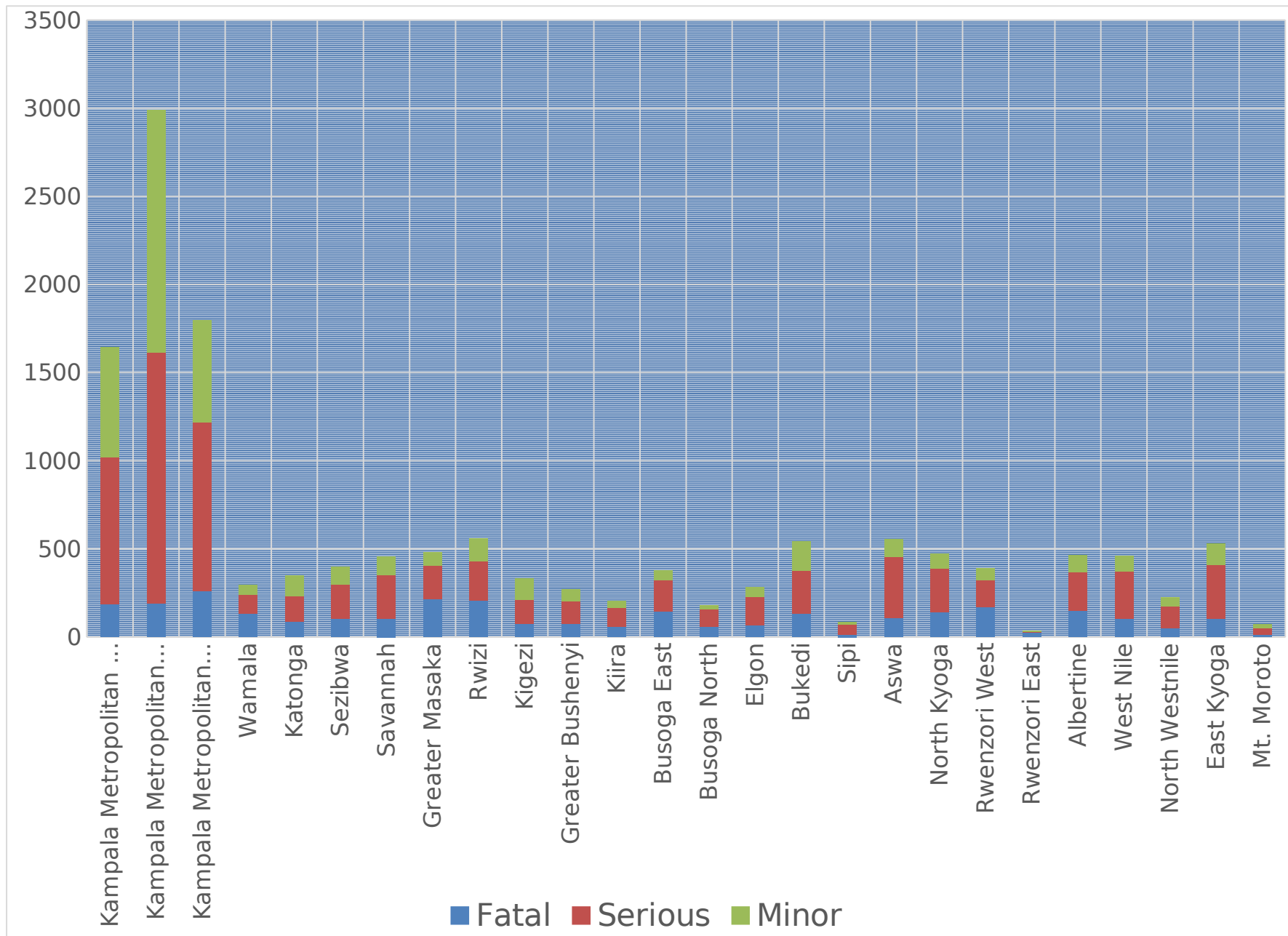
Fatalities from road crashes 2013- 2018

Road User Category	Year					
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Driver	110	126	151	168	159	202
Motor cyclist	641	621	731	791	918	878
Pedal cyclist	224	206	207	203	177	160
Passengers	781	730	824	957	927	1,025
Pedestrians	1,181	1,162	1,311	1384	1,319	1,424
Total	2,937	2,845	3,224	3503	3,500	3,689

Persons seriously injured in 2018



Geographic distribution



Interventions

- Enhanced operations targeting motorists who violate traffic regulations that include speeding, drunk driving and reckless/dangerous driving.
- Fika Salama operation by having a countrywide coordination of enforcement for errant drivers

Interventions

- Sensitization Campaigns of School children in primary schools



A police officer demonstrating to school children how to cross the road



A police officer addresses pupils on parade

- Sensitization of the public on road safety and security through road safety campaigns

Interventions

- Joint sensitization campaigns with the MoWT, and NGOs
- Establishment of Traffic Alert Squad that has arrested traffic officers who are found extorting from motorists.
- Carrying out road safety audits to identify black spots and recommend to UNRA on how the black spots can be improved

Challenges

- Poor/ lack of driver training
- Poor testing mechanisms / facilities for driver competence
- Corruption
- Inadequate training of enforcement officials
- Managing traffic flow as a major task other than enforcement
- Inadequate enforcement equipment

Conclusion

Road safety is a shared responsibility.

Successful road safety strategies in all countries depend on a broad base of support and common action.

Thank you

